



Enclosure 5a
April 6, 2021

Advanced Placement in Rhode Island: 10-Year Trends

Rhode Island Department of Education

April 6, 2021

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ISLAND

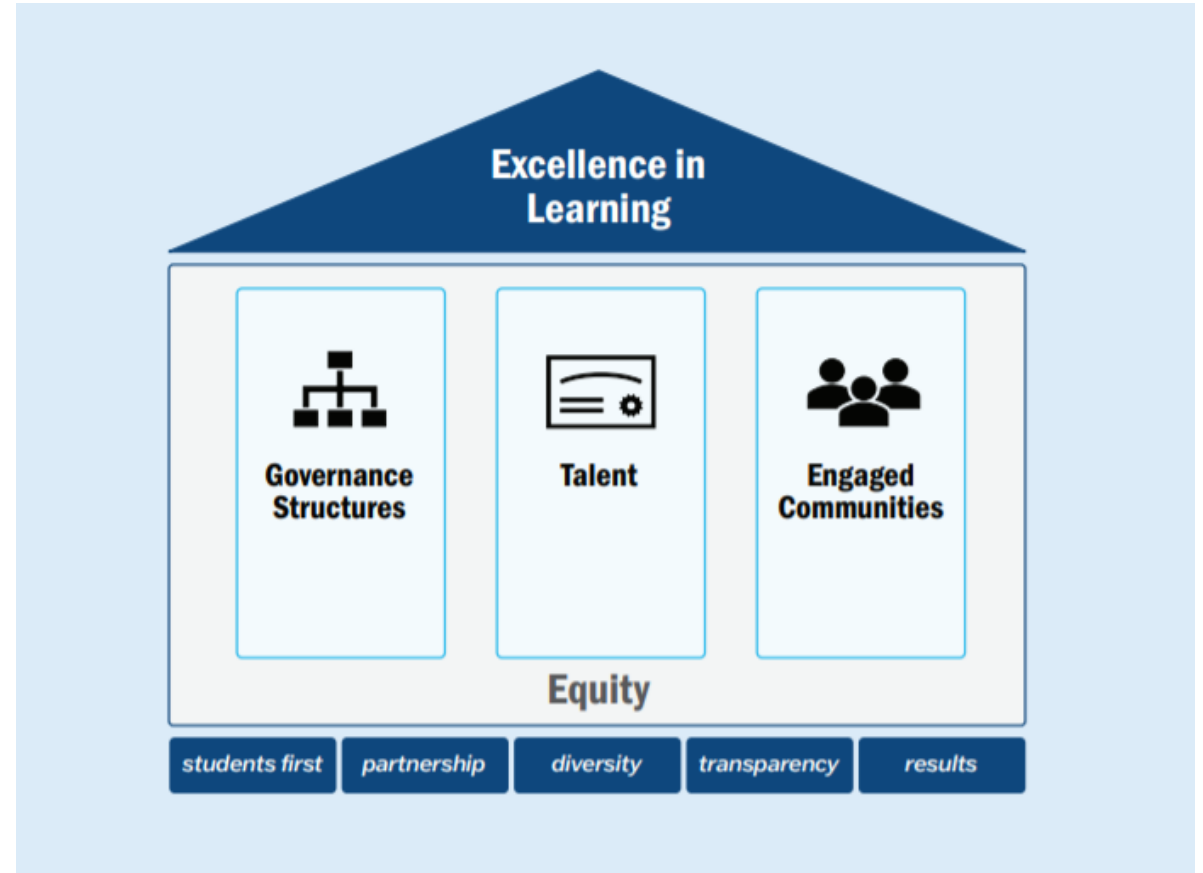
RIDE Priorities

RIDE's mission and vision are guided by the following priorities:

- Equity
- Excellence in Learning
- Engaged Communities
- World-Class Talent
- Governance Structures

Advanced Placement (AP) advances “Excellence in Learning” by providing students with rigorous, college-level coursework. This helps ensure all students are prepared for college and career.

View commitments aligned to each priority [here](#).



Summary

RI has dramatically improved both participation and performance in Advanced Placement (AP) classes over the past 10 years.

- RI has the largest improvement in AP pass rates of any state in the country over the past 10 years. Our pass rate is now higher than the national average.
- RI has more than doubled the percentage of students taking AP exams in the past 10 years (from 18% to 41% of graduating seniors).

Background

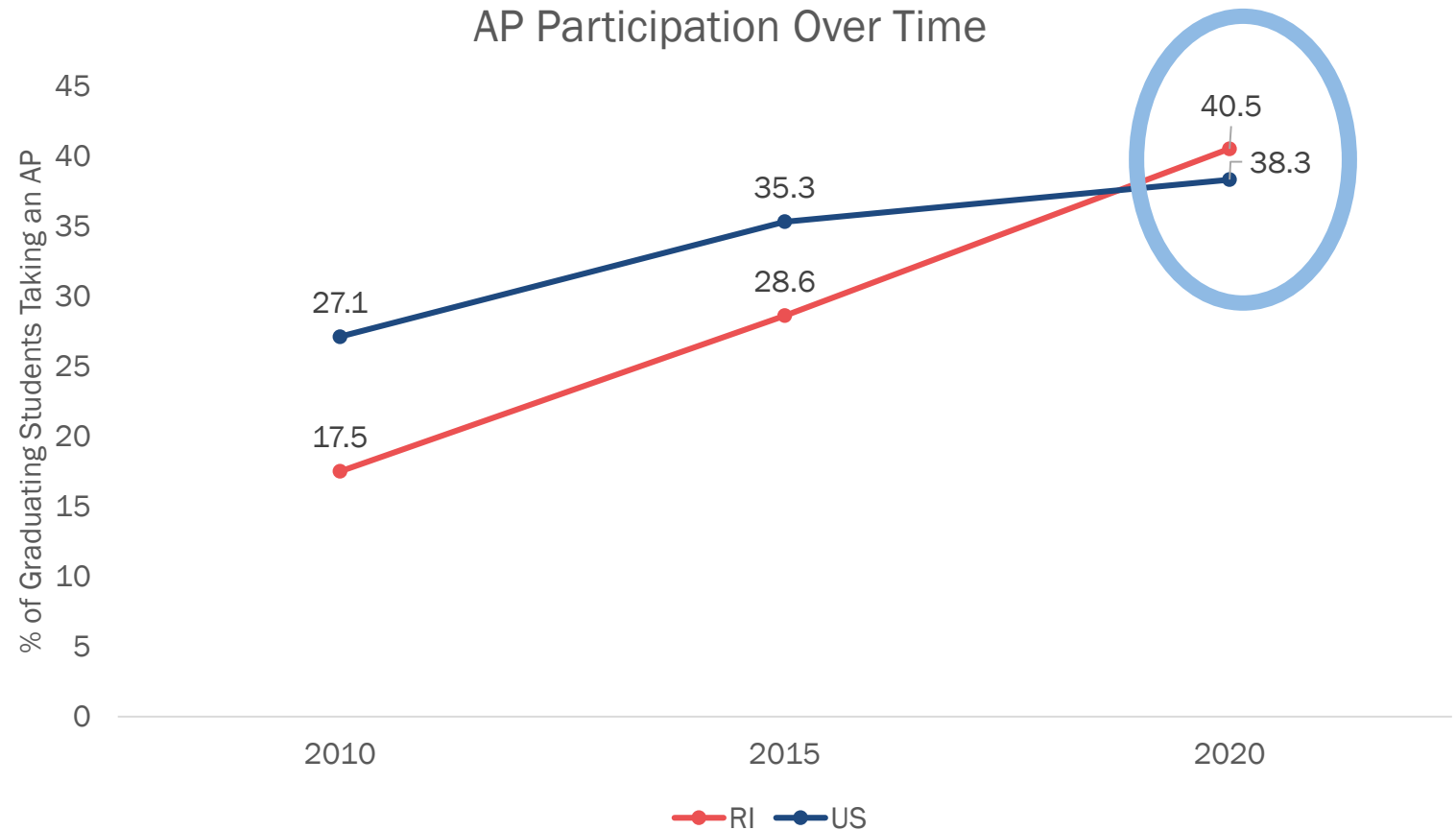
AP classes provide college-level coursework to high school students. These courses boost graduation rates, college enrollment, and college readiness.

- AP courses are college-level courses taught in high school. Students who score high enough on the AP exam can often earn college credit for their class.
- One of the US Department of Education's Regional Educational Laboratories (REL) recently conducted a research study on the impact of Rhode Island's AP, dual enrollment, and concurrent enrollment courses. The study statistically matched students who took college-level courses to similar students who did not take those courses, and found that the course-takers:
 - **Graduated** at higher rates (+21 percentage points)
 - **Enrolled in college** at higher rates (+30 percentage points)
 - Were more **college-ready**: lower rate of needing developmental education (remediation) in college
- The national non-profit that manages the AP program, College Board, recently released [a report](#) on the 2020 AP results, which show great progress for RI.

Expanded participation

RI has more than doubled the number of students taking AP exams in the past 10 years.

- Class of 2010 → 17.5% took an AP
- Class of 2020 → 40.5% took an AP
- RI's AP participation rate is now higher than the national average.

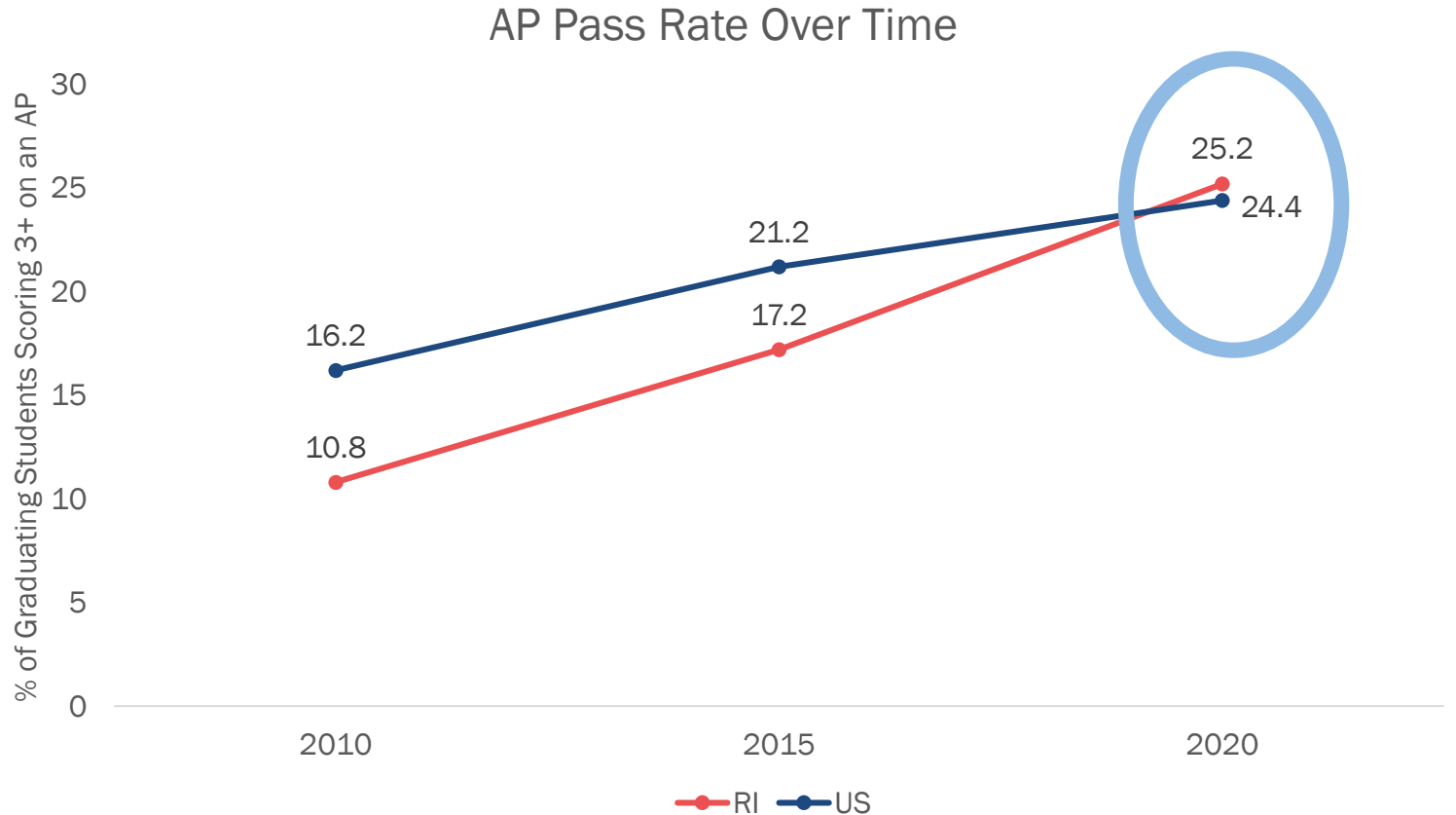


Improved performance

The percent of students passing their AP exams has also more than doubled over the past ten years.

Passing an AP exam (earning a 3 or higher on the 5-point AP scale) allows high school students to earn college credit at most postsecondary institutions.

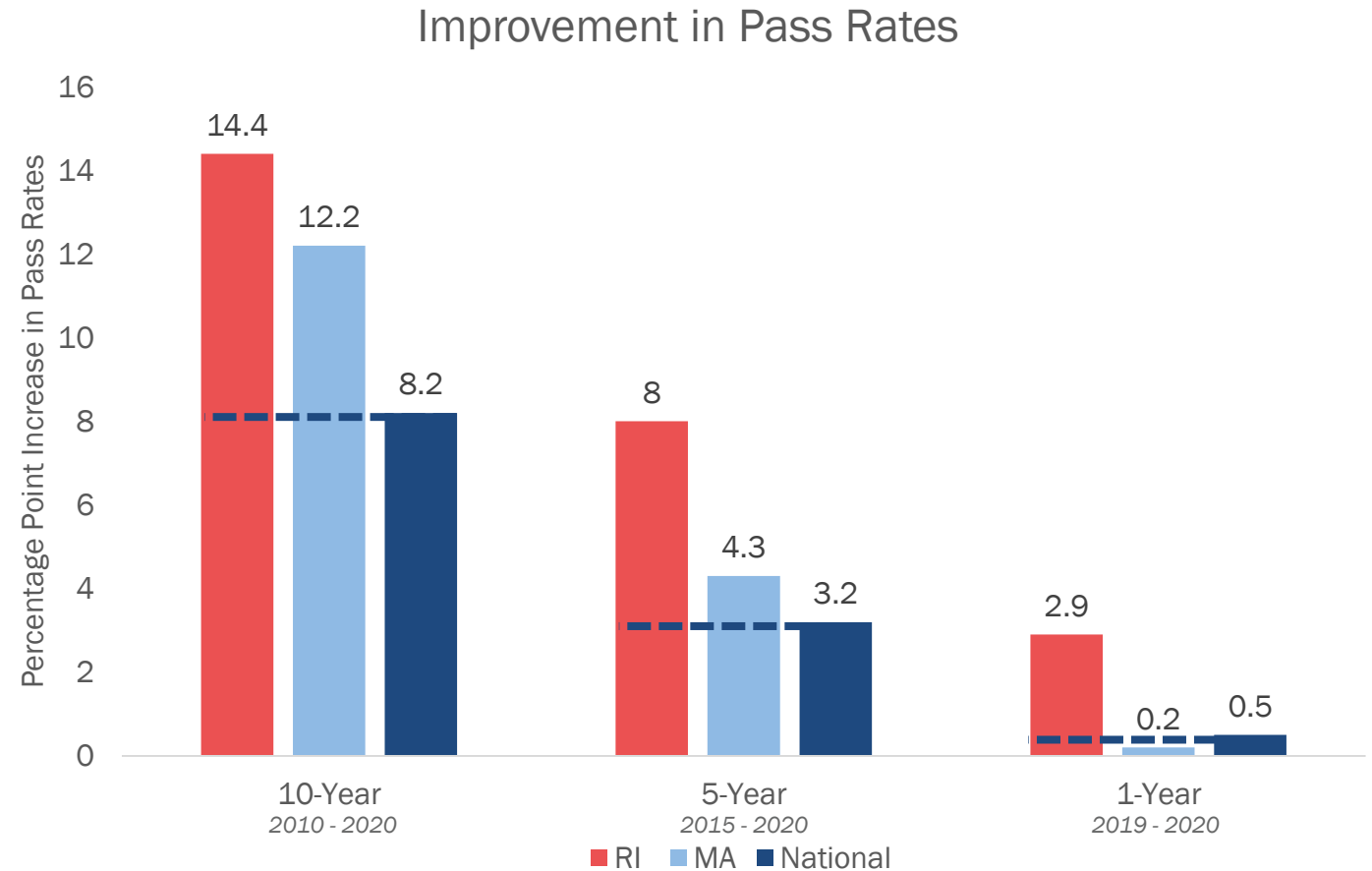
- Class of 2010 → 10.8% passed an AP
- Class of 2020 → 25.2% passed an AP
- RI's AP pass rate is now higher than the national average.



Pass Rates: Largest state improvement in nation

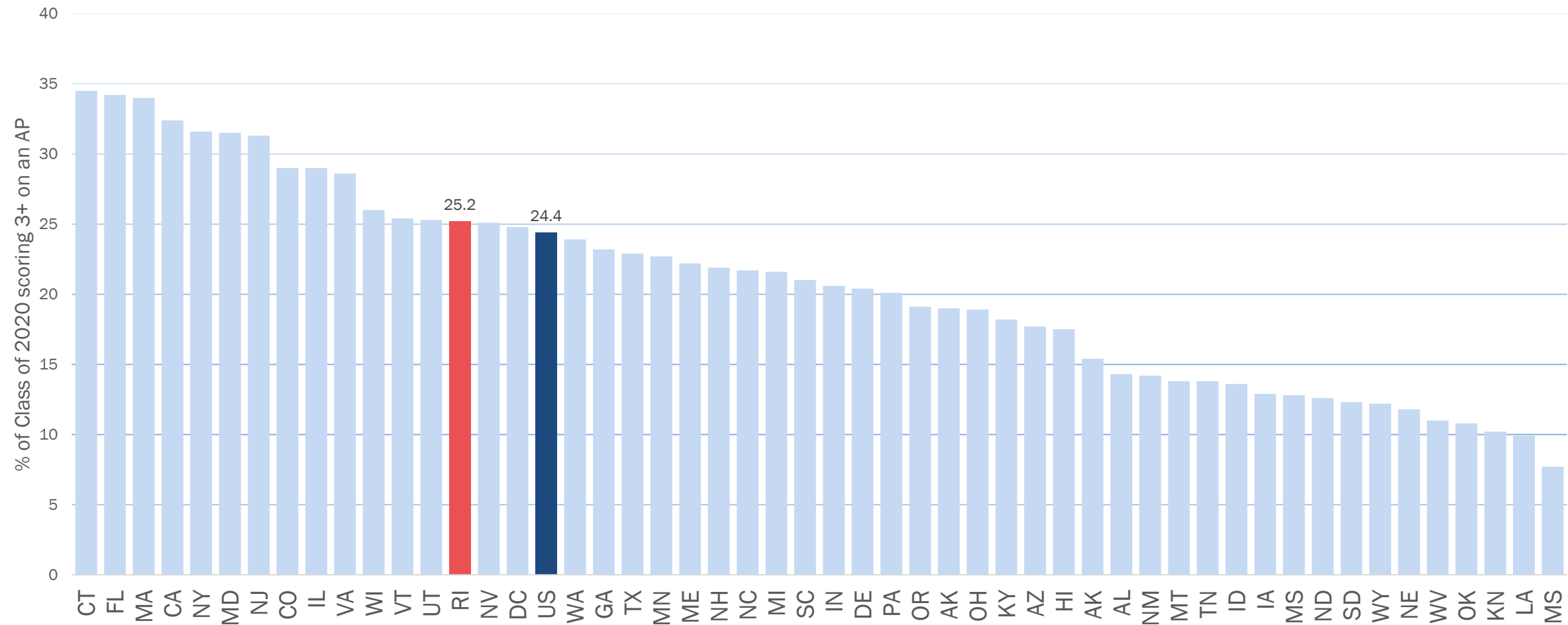
RI had the largest improvement in pass rates over the past 10 years of any state in the nation.

- RI's 10-year growth in pass rates (14.4%) is nearly double the national average (8.2%).
- RI had the largest improvement for pass rates over the past 10 years, 5 years, & 1 year of any state in the US.



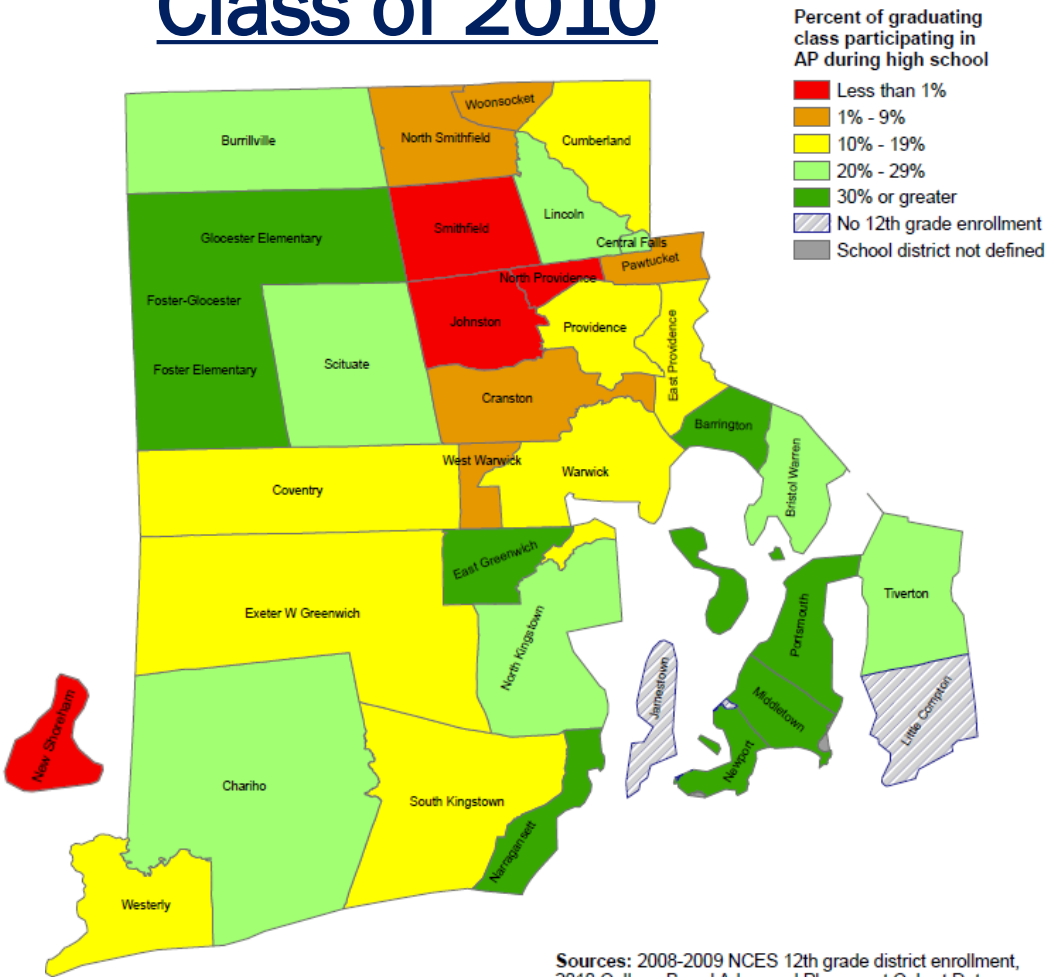
Pass Rates: Above national average

Pass Rate, by State (Class of 2020)



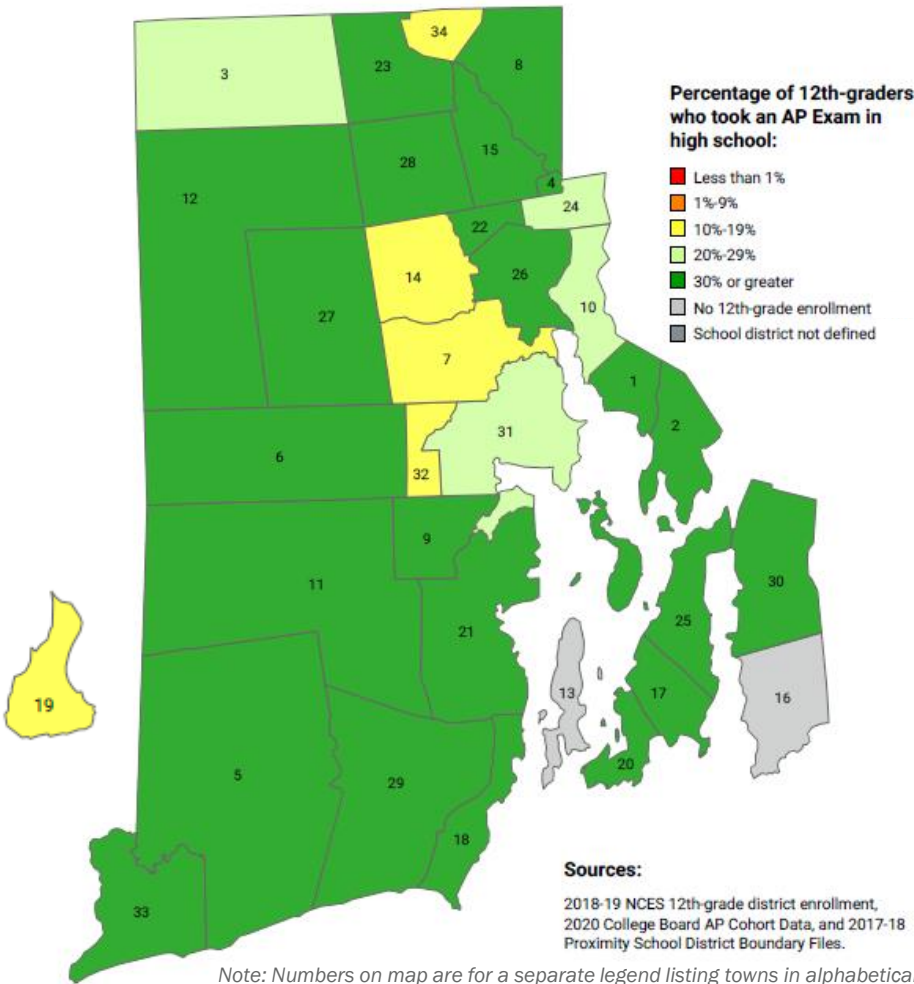
AP Participation, by District

Class of 2010



Sources: 2008-2009 NCES 12th grade district enrollment, 2010 College Board Advanced Placement Cohort Data, and 2007-2008 Proximity School District Boundary Files.

Class of 2020

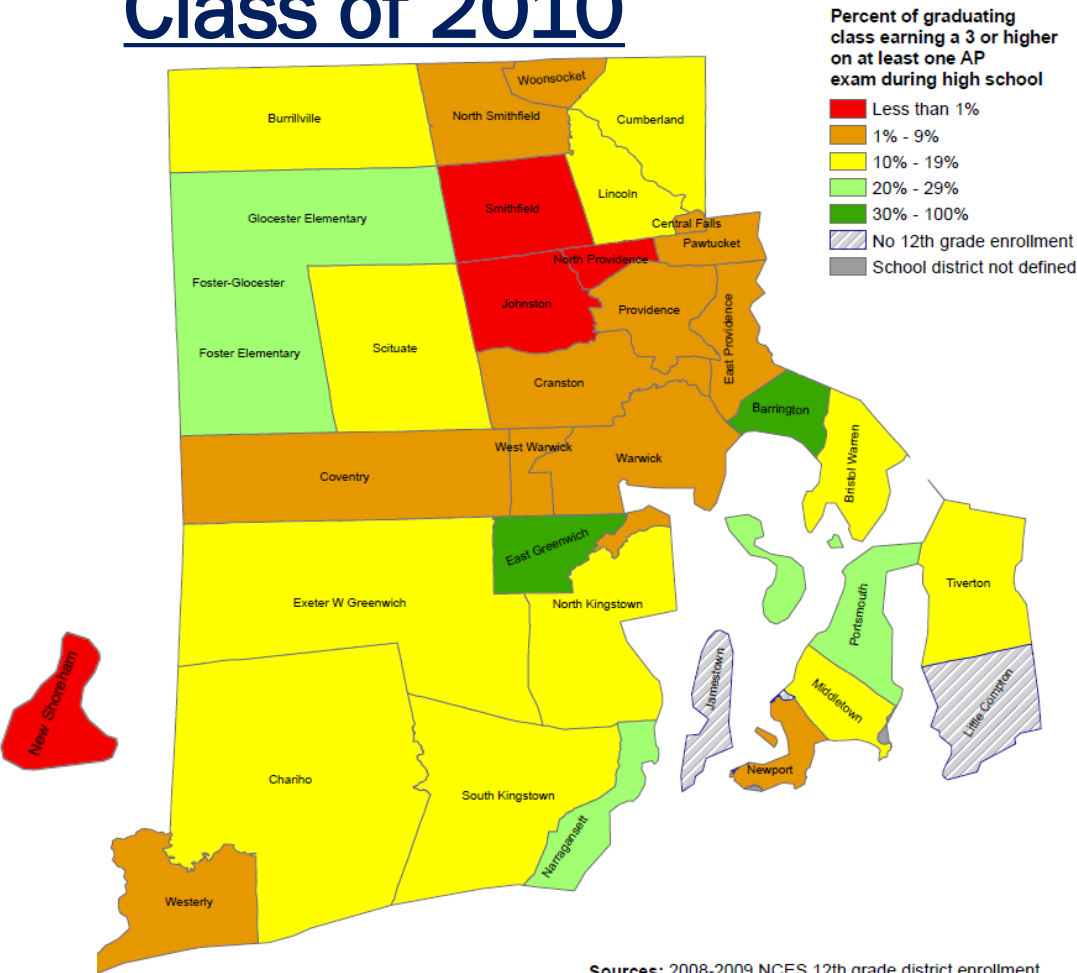


Sources:
2018-19 NCES 12th-grade district enrollment,
2020 College Board AP Cohort Data, and 2017-18
Proximity School District Boundary Files.

Note: Numbers on map are for a separate legend listing towns in alphabetical order

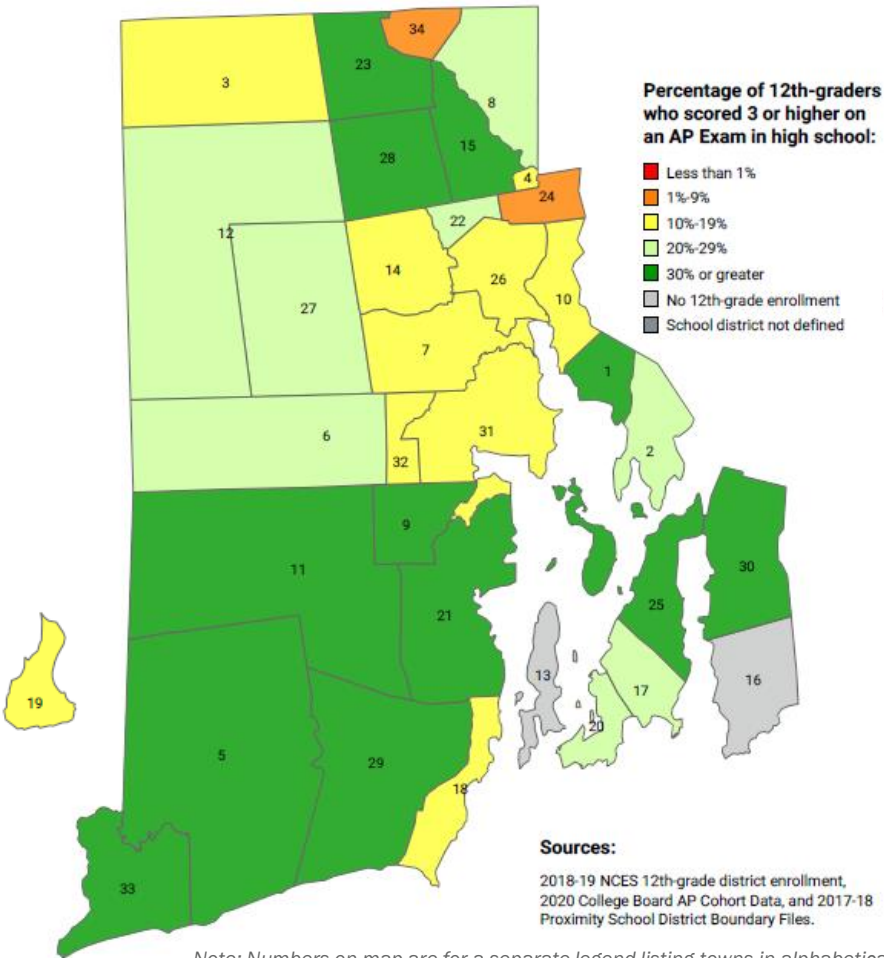
AP Pass Rates, by District

Class of 2010



Sources: 2008-2009 NCES 12th grade district enrollment, 2010 College Board Advanced Placement Cohort Data, and 2007-2008 Proximity School District Boundary Files.

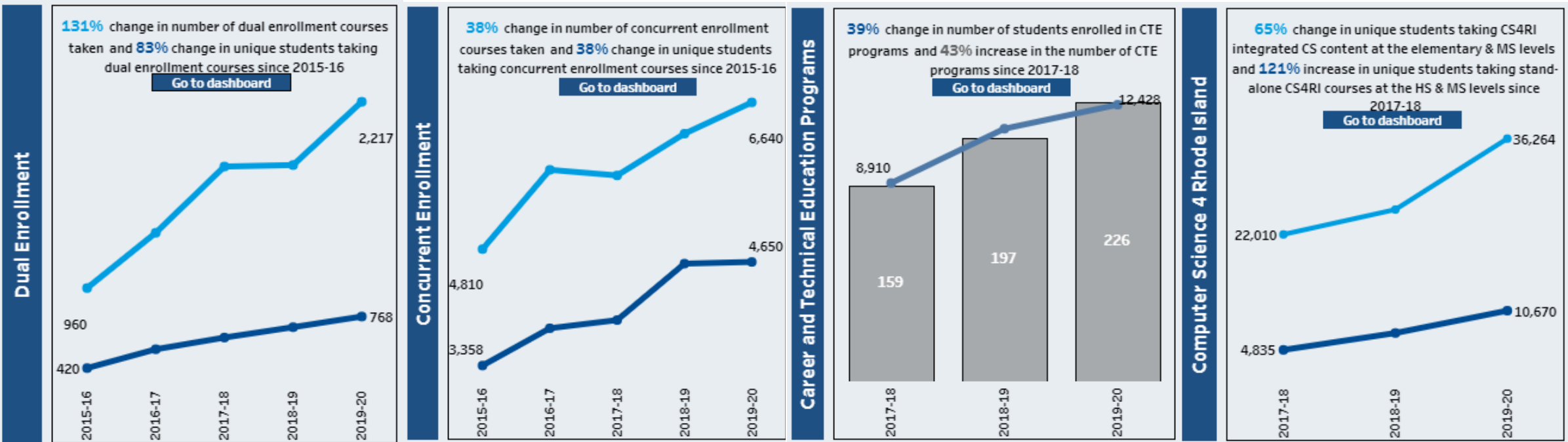
Class of 2020



Note: Numbers on map are for a separate legend listing towns in alphabetical order

More than just AP: Expanding college & career readiness

Through the statewide PrepareRI initiative, RIDE has expanded college and career readiness opportunities beyond AP, including: college-level coursework, career and technical education, and computer science classes.



Screenshots from RIDE's new PrepareRI Dashboard, available at datacenter.ride.ri.gov/Data/PrepareRI

Learn More



- Websites:

- ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies/EducationPrograms/DualEnrollment.aspx
- prepare-ri.org
- datacenter.ride.ri.gov/Data/PrepareRI

- Contact:

- Spencer Sherman, Chief for Innovation – Spencer.Sherman@ride.ri.gov
- Liz Texeira, Director, Office of College & Career Readiness – Elizabeth.Teixeira@ride.ri.gov
- Coral Flanagan, Fellow, Office of College & Career Readiness – Coral.Flanagan@ride.ri.gov